

REMARKS

Claims 9-17, 19-36 and 38-45 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8, 15-16, 18, and 37 have been cancelled. The Examiner objects to claims 18, 24, 25 and 28-35. Claims 9-14, 17, 19-23, 26 and 27, stand rejected. Claims 36 and 38-45 stand allowed. The objections and rejections are addressed in substantially the same order as in the pending Office Action.

OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

The Examiner objected to the drawings for not showing a control circuit. Applicant has revised the claims to recite a controller, which is shown in Figure 1. Applicant believes that this amendment resolves the Examiner's stated objection. Applicant observes that the specification clarifies that the controller can include a control circuit.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER U.S.C. 112

The Examiner noted that claim 9 uses the terms sensor, sensor module and sensor package, which the Examiner contends may lead to confusion in certain instances. Applicant has revised claim 9 to clarify the relationship of the recited elements. Applicant believes that claim 9 better describes the claimed invention without any potential confusion alluded to by the Examiner.

CLAIMS REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 9-14, 10-14, 26, 28-35

With respect to independent claim 9, the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a sensor resiliently coupled to a housing with at least one coupling and at least one bumper slidably supporting the sensor. This recitation is generally analogous to those found in claims 17 and cancelled claim 18, which were objected to but otherwise found allowable. Applicant believes that claim 9 and claims 10-14, 26, 28-35 which depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

Claims 17-23

With respect to claim 17, this claim has been rewritten in independent form using the recitation of claim 18 and some, but not all, of the recitations in claim 9. Nevertheless, with respect to now independent claim 17, the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a sensor resiliently coupled to a housing with at least one coupling and at least one bumper slidably supporting the sensor. Applicant believes that claim 17 and claims 19-23, which depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

Claims 24-27

With respect to claim 24, this claim has been rewritten in independent form using some, but not all, of the recitations in claim 9. Nevertheless, with respect to now independent claim 24, the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a sensor resiliently coupled to a housing with at least one coupling and at least one bumper slidably supporting the sensor. Applicant believes that claim 24 and claims 25-27, which depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

Claims 36, 38-45

The Examiner allowed claims 36, 38-45 and have not been amended. Claim 37 has previously been cancelled.

Miscellaneous Claim Amendments

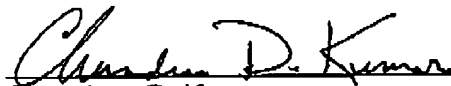
Several of the dependent claims, e.g., claim 19, have been amended to correct an error in the preamble. Specifically, the term "sensor module" has been revised to "sensor apparatus" for consistency with the base claim.

CONCLUSION

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the application is in a condition for allowance. Applicant files herewith a request for extension of time and the associated fee for filing this paper. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **13-0010 (IO-1013US)**.

Respectfully submitted,

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